

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Merseburg Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 August 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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SOURCE 25X1X

1. On 8 July 1951, the runway at Merseburg airfield was concreted except for a western strip of 800 meters. Source determined the eastern end of the runway by sighting from the northern most smokestack of the Leonhard Colliery, 7 km south of Bad Lauchstaedt, to the bend in Lauchstaedter Strasse. This bend constitutes the northeastern corner of the landing field. * On 18 July, the runway was completed except for a 500-meter strip on the western end. Large quantities of sand were continually hauled to the construction site.
2. On 29 July, only 200 meters of the western end of the runway had to be concreted. A strip, 300 meters wide, south of the runway was being graded. ** A taxiway, about 10 meters wide, was under construction just south of this strip. The taxiway is to connect the two ends of the runway and the lanes which are perpendicular to the runway. A road parallel to the runway, which crossed a concrete bunker, was guarded by soldiers wearing blue epaulets. The bunker was 5 to 6 meters wide and about 50 meters long. A tank installation will probably be established there. Another installation had been staked off 300 meters east of the field path leading from Knapendorf to Azendorf via Geusa and 400 meters north of the firing range. ***
3. During the period of observation, the tents on the landing field were occupied by 60 Soviet Air Force soldiers. Five large plows, 8 trucks, and 13 large tractors were used at the field. No motor vehicle traffic was seen.

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* Comment. This indicates that the runway is about 200 meters west of Lauchstaedter Strasse and runs in the direction of compass point 258. The runway is about 2,200 meters long.

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** Comment. The observations indicate that about 300 meters of the runway are being concreted within 10 days. Thus, the runway may be completed by 5 August.

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*** Comment. See Annex to

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